

May 14, 2018  
1420 East 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701

Environmental Quality Council  
Montana Department of Environmental Quality  
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks  
Fisheries Division  
Region 1 Office  
Montana State Library, Helena  
MT Environmental Information Center  
Montana Audubon Council  
Montana Wildlife Federation  
Lincoln Conservation District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Helena  
State Historic Preservation Office, Helena  
City of Troy

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Enclosed is an Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for the Community Pond Program (CPP). The Program tentatively plans to provide partial funding toward a handicap accessible dock, benches, and two interpretive signs at Roosevelt Park Fish Pond, located in the community of Troy in Lincoln County.

Please submit any comments by 11:59 pm on June 14, 2018 to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks at the address listed above. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (406) 444-2432. Please note that this draft EA will be considered as final if no substantive comments are received by the deadline listed above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle McGree", followed by a horizontal line.

Michelle McGree, Program Officer  
Habitat Bureau  
Fisheries Division  
e-mail: [mmcgree@mt.gov](mailto:mmcgree@mt.gov)

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
Fisheries Division  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Roosevelt Park Fish Pond Improvements

General Purpose: The Community Pond Program (CPP) was developed by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks to enhance fishing opportunities in or near Montana communities. Funding is intended for construction or improvement of public fishing ponds, and preference is given to projects that create or enhance opportunities for youth/family angling and education. Funding is derived from the sale of fishing licenses, and authority for the CPP is provided by the Montana State Legislature.

The CPP tentatively plans to provide partial funding toward the improvement of Roosevelt Park Fish Pond, which is a 2-acre pond near the Kootenai River. It is a popular fishing spot for local children, the elderly, family, and people visiting Troy. This project would install a handicap-accessible dock, benches, and interpretive signage to provide additional and improved fishing opportunities.

I. Location of Project:

This project will be conducted at Roosevelt Park, located at 221 Roosevelt Park Rd. in Troy, MT in Lincoln County (Figure 1).

II. Need for the Project:

One goal within FWP's Statewide Fisheries Management Plan is to provide opportunities for people to access and enjoy the public waters of the State for fishing and other forms of water-based recreation. This project accomplishes this goal by improving existing sites and recreation use. It creates opportunities for youth and family angling, and education, which is a core component of the fisheries management plan.

III. Scope of the Project:

The project proposes to install a handicap-accessible dock, benches, and interpretive signage and provide additional and improved fishing opportunities. This project is expected to cost \$18,523.10. Of this total, the FFIP would be contributing up to \$13,379.40 to complete the project. The remaining funding is listed below.

Contributor	In-kind services	In-kind cash
Applicant	\$1,000	\$4,794
Total: \$5,794		

The pond is well used by the Troy and Libby communities. Although the current dock is well maintained and useful, it is not adequate for the population of people using the pond in the busy season. The signs will help anglers follow local regulations while also increasing their knowledge of fishing, pond ecosystems, and insects. There is a handicapped fishing event and kid's events that would greatly

benefit from this project.

The Community Pond Program funded shade trees and a handicapped concrete fishing pad as a previous grant. This would expand upon those improvements.

IV. Environmental Impact Review Checklist:

**Evaluation of the impacts of the Proposed Action including secondary and cumulative impacts on the Physical and Human Environment**

Project Title: Roosevelt Park Fish Pond Improvements

Division/Bureau: Fisheries Division / Habitat Bureau (FFIP)

Description of Project: The CPP tentatively plans to provide partial funding toward the improvement of Roosevelt Park Fish Pond. The project would install a handicap-accessible dock, benches, and interpretive signage to provide additional and improved fishing opportunities.

**A. POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Provided
1. Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture				X		
2. Air quality or objectionable odors				X		
3. Water quality, quantity and distribution (surface or groundwater)				X		
4. Existing water right or reservation				X		
5. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality			X			X
6. Unique, endangered, or fragile vegetative species				X		
7. Terrestrial or aquatic life and/or habitats			X			X
8. Unique, endangered, or fragile wildlife or fisheries species				X		
9. Introduction of new species into an area				X		
10. Changes to abundance or movement of species				X		

**B. POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT**

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Provided
1. Noise and/or electrical effects			X			X
2. Land use				X		
3. Risk and/or health hazards				X		
4. Community impact			X			X
5. Public services/taxes/utilities				X		
6. Potential revenue and/or project maintenance costs				X		
7. Aesthetics and recreation			X			X
8. Cultural and historic resources				X		
9. Evaluation of significance				X		
10. Generate public controversy				X		

V. Explanation of Impacts to the Physical Environment

5. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality. This project includes the installation of a dock, benches, and signs. There may be a very minor impact to vegetation while construction is completed, but the impact will be temporary and restricted to the small work areas.

7. Terrestrial or aquatic life and/or habitats. Installation of a dock structure is expected to have a minor impact to aquatic habitat. The aquatic species may use the dock as additional habitat in the pond, as it will provide shade and cover. The dock is not expected to impact population size.

VI. Explanation of Impacts to the Human Environment

1. Noise and/or electrical effects. There may be temporary noise associated with the equipment used for pond upgrades and installation of new docks and signs. However, the noise would be minimal and will not have a negative long-term impact.

4. Community impact. There is expected to be a positive effect on community because of this project. Increased youth/family angling and educational opportunities are expected and because it will take place in Troy, the entire community will be impacted in a positive way. More people will be able to enjoy fishing and learning at Roosevelt Park Fish Pond.

7. Aesthetics and recreation. The benches, signage, and new dock will not only increase recreational opportunities, but also improve the appearance of the park. This is considered a positive impact.

VII. Narrative Evaluation and Comment.

There are no anticipated cumulative effects.

VIII. Discussion and Evaluation of Reasonable Alternatives.

1. No Action Alternative.

If no funding is provided through the CPP, either the applicant would have to seek additional sources of funding to complete the project, or the affected area of Roosevelt Park would remain as-is, without signage, benches, or an additional handicap accessible dock.

2. The Proposed Alternative.

The proposed alternative intends to provide partial funding through the CPP to enhance Roosevelt Park Fish Pond.

IX. Environmental Assessment Conclusion Section.

1. Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction:

City of Troy

2. Evaluation and listing of mitigation, stipulation, or other control measures enforceable by the agency or another government agency:

None.

3. Is an EIS required?

No. We conclude, from this review, that the proposed activities will have an overall positive impact on the physical and human environment, and will therefore not require the extensive analysis associated with an EIS.

4. Level of public involvement.

The proposed project was reviewed and supported by FWP and has been approved by the Fisheries Division Administrator. The EA will be distributed to all individuals and groups listed on the cover letter and will be published on the FWP webpage: [www.fwp.mt.gov](http://www.fwp.mt.gov).

5. Duration of comment period?

Public comment will be accepted through 11:59 PM, June 14, 2018.

6. Person(s) responsible for preparing the EA.

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Contributor: City of Troy

FIGURE 1: project location

